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A

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional agenda

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4. Adoption of the agenda.

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   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

8. General debate.

9. Consideration of plans and programmes to support the sustainable development of small island developing States and the utilization of their marine and coastal resources, which includes meeting essential human needs, maintaining biodiversity, and improving the quality of life for island people, as well as measures that will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and in a sustainable manner with environmental changes and to mitigate the impacts on and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources:

   (a) Consideration of proposals for a Barbados declaration;

(b) Consideration of the draft programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States.

10. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

Annotations

1. Opening of the Conference

The Conference will be convened at the Sherbourne Centre, Bridgetown, Barbados, on Monday, 25 April 1994 at 3 p.m.

2. Election of the President

Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (A/CONF.167/2) provides that the Conference shall elect a President from among the representatives of participating States. Rule 44 provides that all elections shall be held by secret ballot, unless the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or State.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure

The provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.167/2) were endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/193 of 21 December 1993. The Assembly decided to transmit the provisional rules of procedure to the Conference for adoption.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.167/2).

4. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda set out in the present document was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 48/193. By the same resolution, the Assembly decided to transmit the provisional agenda to the Conference for adoption.

5. Election of officers other than the President

Under rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference shall elect, in addition to the President, nine Vice-Presidents plus an ex officio Vice-President from the host country, a Rapporteur-General, and a Chairman for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. Those officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

6. Organization of work, including establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference

In its resolution 48/193, the General Assembly decided that the Conference should take place from 25 April to 6 May 1994, with the pre-Conference consultations to take place on 24 April 1994.

Rule 46 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that the Conference may establish a Main Committee, as required, which may, subject to the decision of the Plenary of the Conference (rule 48), set up subcommittees or working groups. Under rule 48, the Conference may establish, in addition to the Main Committee, such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions. Subject to the decision of the Plenary of the Conference, the Main Committee may set up subcommittees and working groups. According to rule 49, the members of the committees and working groups of the Conference shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise. Under the same rule, members of the subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee in question, subject to the approval of that Committee, unless the Committee decides otherwise.

The provisional rules of procedure also provide for the appointment of a Credentials Committee (rule 4) and a General Committee (rule 11).

A note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters will be before the Conference for consideration. It will include a proposed timetable for the work of the Conference. The pre-Conference consultations, to take place on 24 April, are expected to make recommendations to the Conference on the basis of the note by the Secretariat.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters (A/CONF.167/3).

7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:

(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-eighth session. At that session, the Credentials Committee consisted of the representatives of the following States: Austria, Bahamas, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Mauritius, Russian Federation, Thailand and United States of America.

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

In accordance with rule 4, the Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

8. General debate

The Plenary of the Conference will hold a general debate between 26 April and 2 May 1994. The list of speakers for the general debate will be closed at 6 p.m. on 28 April 1994.

9. Consideration of plans and programmes to support the sustainable development of small island developing States and the utilization of their marine and coastal resources, which includes meeting essential human needs, maintaining biodiversity, and improving the quality of life for island people, as well as measures that will enable small island developing States to cope effectively, creatively and in a sustainable manner with environmental changes and to mitigate the impacts on and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources

(a) Consideration of proposals for a Barbados declaration

At its resumed first session, the Preparatory Committee had before it a draft text entitled "The Barbados Declaration (Elements for discussion)", submitted by Barbados. In its Decision 18 of 11 March 1994, the Preparatory Committee requested the Secretary-General to transmit the text containing proposals for a Barbados declaration to the Conference for its consideration and appropriate action.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the text containing proposals for a Barbados declaration (A/CONF.167/L.2).

(b) Consideration of the draft programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States

At its first session, the Preparatory Committee considered basic elements for an action programme on the sustainable development of small island developing States, based on the document entitled "Position of the Group of 77 and China on basic elements for an action programme for the sustainable development of small island developing States" (A/CONF.167/PC/L.5 and Add.1), submitted by Colombia on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

At the same session, the representative of Vanuatu (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States) submitted a revised text of the document submitted by the Group of 77 and China.

At the same session, in its decision 10, the Preparatory Committee decided to request the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to prepare a

revised, integrated and comprehensive working text, based on the revised text submitted by the Group of 77 and China, which would take into account the comments and proposals made by delegations.

At its resumed first session, the Preparatory Committee considered a draft programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States based on the position of the Group of 77 and China, which incorporated amendments proposed by delegations and corrections submitted in writing to the Secretariat.

In its decision 19 of 11 March 1994, the Preparatory Committee requested the Secretary-General to transmit the draft programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States, as amended during the resumed first session of the Preparatory Committee, to the Conference for its consideration and appropriate action.

Also at its resumed first session, the Preparatory Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General on current donor activities in support of sustainable development of small island developing States (A/CONF.167/PC/13 and Add.1). In its decision 20, the Preparatory Committee requested the Secretary-General to transmit a revised version of the report to the Conference for its consideration and appropriate action.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on current donor activities in support of sustainable development of small island developing States (A/CONF.167/4).

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the draft programme of action for the sustainable development of small island developing States (A/CONF.167/PC/L.1).

10. Adoption of the report of the Conference

In paragraph 11 of its resolution 48/193, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit to it at its forty-ninth session under the sub-item entitled "Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States", the report of the Global Conference. The draft of the report will be prepared by the Rapporteur-General of the Conference and presented to the Conference for its approval.